REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 11-20 are active in the present application; Claims 11 and 19 having been amended. Applicants note that the amendment to Claim 11 is supported in the specification at page 8, line 8. Thus, no new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as indefinite. Accordingly, Claim 19 has been amended to conform with standard U.S. practice.

The present invention is directed to a weather vane for measuring orientation of the wind comprising a rotary base, a vane sensitive to the wind and fix by a joint to the base, and a heater shaped as a parallel piped inserted into the vane. The vane is hollow and has an insertion orifice situated at the base of the vane which is large enough such that the heater can be inserted into the vane through the base of the vane.

Since the heater is not marked through the dihedral surface defined between the two trailing edges 11 and 12, the vane need not be open at the rear of its lateral faces. Therefore, the surface 9 has a closed truncated profile and may have an elliptical shape, thus minimizing drag from the trailing edges 11 and 12.

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Neary et al. However, Applicants respectfully assert that amended Claim 11 defines over the reference to Neary et al.

Neary et al is directed to a vane type airflow sensor for sensing angle of attack or angle of side slip. Neary et al teaches a vane which is swept rearwardly at both the leading

and trailing edges. Heating is accomplished by a resistance heater wire 55. The resistance heater wire 55 is grounded in the vane and snaked through the vane as shown in Fig. 2 in Neary et al.

Applicants respectfully assert that Neary et al does not teach or suggest an insertion orifice situated at the base of the vane which is large enough such that the heater can be inserted into the vane through the base of the vane. Such a teaching would conflict with the teaching of Neary et al in which the resistance heater wire 55, as noted in the specification in Neary et al, is "embedded (cast in place in the vane)". As such, there would be no need for an insertion orifice which is large enough such that the heater can be inserted into the vane. Indeed, Neary et al contains no such teaching or suggestion. Therefore, Claim 11 defines over Neary et al. Thus the rejection is believed to be overcome.

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Neary in view of Greene. Claims 13-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Neary in view of Cantagrel et al. Claims 12 and 13-20 however are dependent upon Claim 11 and are therefore believed to be allowable for the reasons noted above. Thus, these rejections are moot.

Consequently, in view of the above discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 11 to read as follows.

11. (Amended) A weather vane for measuring orientation of wind, comprising:

a rotary base[,];

a vane sensitive to the wind and fixed by a joint to the base[,]; and

a heater inserted into the vane, wherein the vane is hollow and has an insertion orifice situated at the base of the vane which is large enough such [so] that the heater can be inserted into the vane through the base of the vane.